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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF CUENOUD ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: 10/696,488

FILED: OCTOBER 29, 2003

FOR: 2'-SUBSTITUTED NUCLEOSIDES AND OLIGONUCLEOTIDE DERIVATIVES

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir

The Office Action of October 3, 2007 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on November 3, 2007. A five-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-4409 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$2160 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 50-4409 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research, Inc. 400 Technology Square Cambridge, MA 02139

Date: April 3, 2008

Thomas J. Digby Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. L0242

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